



Rayna Howell

June 23, 1937 - April 19, 2025

Wantage - Rayna Howell, age 87, of Wantage, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 19, 2025 at Morristown Medical Center while surrounded by her loving family. Born on the family farm, known as the Price Farm located on Price Road on June 23, 1937 to the late Marshall and Dorothy (Losey) Price, Rayna attended a one room schoolhouse in Frankford Township, graduating 8th grade in 1951. She then attended Newton High School, graduating in 1955. While in high school, Rayna was the Baton Majorette, member of the Glee Club, choir, played basketball and volleyball and was a member of the future nurses group. In 1955, she was crowned Miss Frankford Township Queen. Shortly after, she was accepted into the nursing program at Orange Memorial and received her three year Registered Nursing degree in September 1958. While she attended nursing school, Rayna served as Vice President of the Student Council. She also sang in the choir and was fortunate to have the experience of entertaining a crowd at the Convention Hall in Atlantic City. Most importantly, Rayna was able to begin her nursing experience at the New York Presbyterian Hospital, training in pediatrics and the premature nursery and then went to Graystone Hospital in Morristown for three months, training in psychiatric nursing. After receiving her Registered Nursing degree, Rayna started to work for the former Alexander Linn Hospital and remained there throughout their transitions when the hospital was Wallkill Valley Hospital, Northwest Covenant Medical Center and St. Clare's Hospital. After forty years serving at the Sussex Hospital, Rayna retired in May 1997.

Rayna Price met the love of her life, Ronald Howell on a blind date and it was love at first sight. They were engaged in 1957, later married on October 4, 1958 and built their first home in 1959. They celebrated their 61st wedding Anniversary with many family and friends in June 2019. They had four beautiful daughters; Debbie Howell of Wantage, Tammy Kuperus and her husband Thomas of Hampstead, NC, Cheryl Cecchini and her husband Michael of Wantage, and the late Donna Howell Little. Rayna had 14 grandchildren; Kristen Carruci, Lauren (Ernie) Conklin, Derek (Renata) Kuperus, Danielle (Joshia) Whitten, Meghan (Paul) Putera, Heather (Patrick) Freeland, Jenna (Kyle) Bruffy, Michael (Alissa) Cecchini Jr., Justin Kuperus, Erin (Matt)Washer, Jesse (Caitlin) Kuperus, Brianna (Dan) Caouette, Hope Crapo (Chase), and Mackenzie Montes (Gavin). She was also blessed with 28 great grandchildren with two forth coming. Rayna was so very proud to be blessed with a large family, and treasured each and every one of them. She is also survived by her brother, Raymond Price of Frankford Township; her sister, Lois Kinney of Branchville; her brother-in-law; Wayne Howell and his wife Judy of Wantage; her sister-in-law, Elaine Eberhardt and her husband Frank of North Carolina; her brother-in-law, Roy R. Rohel and his wife Cindy of Frankford; and her sister-in-law, Margie Borner and her husband Edward of Cape Coral, Florida; and many nieces, nephews and cousins. Besides her parents, Rayna was predeceased by her devoted husband, Ronald in 2020; her cherished daughter, Donna (Howell) Little in 2012; and her brother, Robert M. Price in 2025. She was a former member of the Baleville Congregational Christian Church and was active in the Sussex Woman's Club. Rayna was an active member of the Sussex United Methodist Church, a member of the Sussex United Methodist Woman's Group, taught Sunday School and sang in their choir. Rayna was a simple and humble person who showed much compassion towards everyone. She was gentle and soft spoken and would always greet someone with an indelible smile. She was an extremely hard worker, an incredible wife, mother, and grandmother, and a social butterfly. In

the past, Rayna enjoyed roller skating, ice skating, playing piano, reading, figuring out word puzzles, collecting recipes and canning vegetables. Funeral services will held at 10 a.m. on Monday, April 28, 2025 at the Pinkel Funeral Home, 31 Bank Street (Route 23), Sussex. Interment at Clove Cemetery will immediately follow. Friends may pay their respects to the family from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, 2025 at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that all memorial donations may be made in Rayna's memory to the Sussex United Methodist Church, 15 Bank Street, Sussex, NJ 07461. Online condolences may be offered to the family on www.pinkelfuneralhome.com

Previous Events

Visitation

APR **27**. 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM (ET)

Pinkel Funeral Home, Inc.
31 Bank Street (Route 23)
Sussex, NJ 07461
(973) 875-3272
alexis@pinkelfuneralhome.com
<https://www.pinkelfuneralhome.com/>

Service

APR **28**. 10:00 AM (ET)

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Sussex, NJ 07461
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Virtual Service

APR **28**. 10:00 AM.

<https://youtube.com/live/sxLqb5lJz8c?feature=share>

Tribute Wall

MP

“ to the family of Rayna Price Howell I send my sincere condolences from so long ago and far away.....thoughts go back to NHS and so many good times...Rayna was one of my bands majorette team and only later ,while in to ancestry, do I find our families go back so much further...I'm so glad to have those memories to remember herSincerely, Marilyn Sisco Poe

Marilyn Sisco Poe - May 10, 2025 at 11:39 AM

DM

“ Sincere condolences to the family of Rayna . I knew Rayna all her life. She was an Augusta girl. Very loving and considerate.
Fondly,
Dona McMillen

Dona McMillen - May 03, 2025 at 06:14 PM

FM

“ 1 file added to the album RAYNA



F. IDJADI, MD - April 27, 2025 at 07:11 PM

CC

Dr. Idjadi I love this picture. Thank you for posting.

cheryl Cecchini - April 30, 2025 at 07:12 AM

LK

“ Our Heartfelt Sympathy to Debbie, Tammy, Cheryl and their families as well to Lois and Raymond. It is with great sadness to learn of your dear Mom and Sister's passing. Rayna was an amazing woman whose role included being a daughter, wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin and friend. She was so sweet, kind, loving, caring and always gave it her all in helping others. You could say she was the glue that held her family together and always made time for everyone. Rayna had an incredible talent of many things. She was soft spoken and never a harsh word . She always brought smiles to everyone around her. The Price and Howell families will never be the same without dear, Rayna. She touched so many lives and brought happiness and sunshine to so many people. May her spirit and beautiful treasured memories keep you strong and bring you solace, hope to ease your sorrow and time to bring you peace. Heaven just gained another beautiful Angel. Rayna we know your dear Ronnie and dear sweet Donna are welcoming you with open arms. A tearful goodbye to a great Cousin. Love you and know you have left a beautiful legacy for your family to cherish and follow. Our Deepest Sympathy, Love & Prayers 🙏❤️🌹🕊️🙏
Linda & Paul Homan-Roxboro NC



Linda Kinney-Homan - April 27, 2025 at 01:28 AM

JK

“Debbie and family— my deepest condolences to all at this most sorrowful time. Your mom and dad were always very kind to me and always made me feel welcomed. I’ve always said, your mom made the best chocolate chip cookies and potato salad I’ve ever eaten. She was a great nurse who dedicated herself to helping others. And Debbie I know how much love and admiration you have always had for your mom. So much so, that you followed in your mom’s footsteps by studying hard to become a dedicated nurse just like your mom. She was a great person to emulate. Hugs from your BFF Kathy K.

Johanna Klingener - April 26, 2025 at 11:46 AM

K(

“Lauren and family, our thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time. God bless your Grandma and may she rest in peace.

Kelly Wronka (Conklin) - April 25, 2025 at 10:22 PM

ES

“Eric Jane Olivia Jake Bella Spadavecchia purchased the Arrive in Style for the family of Rayna Howell.



Eric Jane Olivia Jake Bella Spadavecchia - April 23, 2025 at 08:14 PM

DC

“My sincere condolences to the family & those who loved her. What a wonderful tribute to beautiful Rayna.... She accomplished so very much... had a full life, a loving family.... She was truly blessed. Heaven has indeed gained an angel💕🙏

Donna Caponigro - April 23, 2025 at 08:10 PM

TW

“ Peace and comfort to the family on the loss of this one of a kind soul.

Michael & Theresa Westdyke

Thresa Westdyke - April 23, 2025 at 05:09 PM

BW

“ Rayna had a heart of gold and always went out of her way to make you feel welcome in her home. God has truly gotten an Angel added to his choir

Betty L Willis - April 23, 2025 at 03:50 PM

CM

“ I had the wonderful privilege of working with Rayna as a new grad nurse actually from the same nursing school at Alexander Linn Hospital . She dried my tears and encouraged me many times. My name is Christine and she called me Christopher Robbin. We laughed a lot together! We figured out lots of things together and took care of patients together. I have never forgotten her caring kindnesses to me. Blessed to have known her.

Christine McCulloch - April 23, 2025 at 01:25 PM



“ She was a lovely woman. After reading her obituary I would like to say WOW. May God bless her and her family.

Nina Kerr - April 23, 2025 at 12:38 PM

ND

“ Your Mom... the most warm & pleasant smile ever, a lovely kind lady. Our thoughts and prayers are with you all. Nick & Barb Dattoli.

Nick & Barb Dattoli - April 23, 2025 at 07:47 AM